

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 101053

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 3128 ACTION SECSTATE INFO USUN 23 APR

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3128

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNSC PT PI ID

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE TIMOR: WINSPEARE'S VIEWS

1. IN CALL ON WINSPEARE BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS
APRIL 23 WINSPEARE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH FORM
UNSC RESOLUTION ON PORTUGUESE TIMOR HAD TAKEN INASMUCH
AS IT DID NOT CALL FOR SYG TO ATTEMPT TO FORMULATE
RECOMMENDATIONS AND LEFT IT OPEN FOR WINSPEARE TO
JUDGE WHETHER AND WHEN FURTHER VISITS BY HIM MIGHT
BE USEFUL. HE SAID HE HAD URGED PGET DELEGATION
TO STOP OVER IN GENEVA IN RETURNING FROM NEW YORK TO
DILI, AND HAD SCHEDULED MEETING HERE FOR APRIL 26.
WINSPEARE SAID THAT HORTA, APPARENTLY AT URGING OF
PRC, PLANS TO TOUR AFRICA TO TRY TO GATHER SUPPORT
FOR FRETLIN CAUSE, AND HE HAS ASKED HIM TO STOPOVER TOO. COMMENTING
ON PRC POSTURE ON TIMOR ISSUE, WINSPEARE THOUGHT HE SAW PRC ACTING
ON TWO LEVELS, AND IN FACT "SUPPLYING HORTA WITH NOTHING
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BUT WORDS."

2. WINSPEARE RECOUNTED IMPRESSIONS FROM HIS EARLIER VISIT OF WHAT TENOUS HOLD FRET LIN ENJOYS, AND COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES IT HAS, WHERE AS FACTS OF CLIMATE, TOPOGRAPHY AND LACK OF OVERLAND TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS ENABLE IT TO HOLD OUT.

3. BASIC QUESTION NOW, AS WINSPEARE SEES THEM, ARE (A) WHETHER PGET WOULD AGREE TO ALLOW FRET LIN ADHERENTS TO ENTER INTO POLITICAL PROCESS AS A PARTY, AND (B) WHETHER HORTA COULD AGREE TO THIS. WINSPEARE SAW NO POSSIBILITY THAT LONG RANGE PROSPECT EVEN IN THE CASE, WOULD BE ANYTHING OTHER THAN EVENTUAL DISAPPEARANCE OF FRET LIN (SINCE INDONESIA "HAS NO PARTIES"), EVAPORATION OF PGET (WHICH REGARDS ITSELF AS TRANSITIONAL REGIME), AND INCORPORATION INTO INDONESIA (PERHAPS AS MORE MORE SPOT IN REGION WHICH MUST CONTEND ENDLESSLY WITH SEPARATIST FORCES.)

4. IF PARTIES WILL NOT MEET (HOPEFULLY IN GENEVA), OR IF ANSWERS THEY GIVE TO THESE BASIC QUESTIONS ARE UNSATISFACTORY, WINSPEARE SEE LITTLE OR NOTHING HE OR OTHER CAN DO. HE REMARKED THAT THIS IS CASE IN WHICH THE TASK IS SO IMPOSSIBLE IT BECOMES EASY.
DALE UNQUOTE SISCO

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